

Filed for intro on 01/15/2003

HOUSE RESOLUTION 2
By Brooks (Shelby)

A RESOLUTION to welcome Mrs. Betty Morris to the City of Memphis and the State of Tennessee and to congratulate her upon her election as National President of the Ladies Auxiliary of the Veterans of Foreign Wars.

WHEREAS, The members of this legislative body are proud to welcome distinguished visitors to our State; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Betty Morris, National President of the Ladies Auxiliary for the Veterans of Foreign Wars, will be in Memphis on January 18-20, 2003, as part of her nationwide tour; she will be urging the local community to join with the Ladies Auxiliary in its campaign to fund cancer aid and research; and

WHEREAS, A guest of the Dr. R. Q. Venson VFW Post 11333 at 280 Cynthia Place, Mrs. Morris will also visit the Civil Rights Museum and other Memphis attractions before participating in the Martin Luther King Parade on Monday, January 20; and

WHEREAS, Elected National President of the Ladies Auxiliary for the VFW by the 89th National Convention in Nashville on Friday, August 30, 2002, Betty Morris is the first black American and the first from Maryland to hold that office; originally a member of Charlton-Miller

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Auxiliary #6054, she is currently a Life member of Darlington-Dublin Memorial Auxiliary #10146 in Darlington, Maryland; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Morris has held many positions, including two terms as Auxiliary #6054 President, President and Honor Guard Captain for District 5, Eastern States Soloist from 1992-2000, Honorary Committee Member for the 1990 National Convention in Baltimore, 1991 National Convention Page for Past National Presidents, National Assistant Soloist and National Chairman for the Eastern Conference on the Rehabilitation Program; she has also been named Outstanding Department President for 1990-91 and was elected to represent Rhode Island and Maryland on the National Council of Administration for 1993-95; and

WHEREAS, As leader of the 671,501-member Auxiliary, Betty Morris seeks to increase its membership and to exceed its community service records, including raising \$3 million or more for the Auxiliary Cancer Aid and Research Program for the 15th consecutive year; she is also building up the mentoring program and promoting broader participation in Junior Girls Units; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Morris will also oversee the Auxiliary's programs of assistance to veterans which have included volunteering millions of hours of service in hospitals, contacting legislators of veterans' issues, and donating millions of dollars in aid to veterans with special needs; the Auxiliary also sponsors scholarships and awards for students who participate in patriotic art, speech and volunteerism contests; donates goods and services to victims of violence, terrorism and natural disasters; and conducts an annual birthday party for the Statue of Liberty every October 28th; and

WHEREAS, Betty Morris gained eligibility of Auxiliary membership through her husband, Zarnoff F. Morris, a United States Army retiree with 22 years of service who has been active in the VFW for more than 30 years; they are the proud parents of five children and are the doting grandparents of seven grandchildren and two great-grandchildren; and

WHEREAS, It is fitting that we join with the members of the Dr. R. Q. Venson Post 11333 and the people of Memphis in welcoming this dynamic and innovative leader; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED THIRD GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, That we extend our heartiest welcome to Mrs. Betty Morris, National President of the Ladies Auxiliary for the Veterans of Foreign Wars, offer our thanks and congratulations for the outstanding service rendered by her organization and extend our best wishes for every success and satisfaction during the remainder of her term.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.